

slightly in all regional cities except Winnipeg, where there was no change from the previous month. The health-and-personal-care indexes advanced by varying amounts in all cities except Montreal, reflecting a general increase in professional fees. Recreation-and-reading indexes also rose in all cities except Montreal, where there was a marginal decline. The tobacco and alcohol indexes did not change.

REGIONAL CITIES

St. John's: The all-items index for October remained unchanged at its September level of 130.8. Food prices declined by 1.2 per cent, largely as a result of seasonally-lower quotations for fresh vegetables and some fruits. A slight decrease was also recorded in the transportation index. These declines were offset by an advance of 6.7 per cent in the health-and-personal-care index, mainly attributable to higher doctors' and dentists' fees, and by marginal increases in the housing, clothing, and recreation and reading components.

Halifax: An increase of 0.1 per cent brought the all-items index for October up to 142.5 from 142.4 in September. This fractional rise stems from a 2.5 percent increase in the health-and-personal-care index and from smaller increases in the housing, clothing and recreation-and-reading indexes. These advances outweighed declines in the indexes for food and for transportation.

Saint John: The all-items index of 145.7 for October was unchanged from the previous month. Declines in the food and transportation indexes were offset by increases in all other components, except tobacco and alcohol which was unchanged.

Montreal: The all-items index declined fractionally by 0.2 per cent to 148.8 in October from 149.1 in the preceding month. The clothing index declined by 1.3 per cent as a result of lower prices for women's fur coats and other outer wear. All other components, except those for housing and tobacco and alcohol which were unchanged, registered fractional declines.

Ottawa: The all-items index edged up by 0.2 per cent to 148.6 in October from 148.3 in September. Increased professional fees for medical care accounted mainly for a 2.8 per cent rise in the health-and-personal-care index. The clothing index advanced by 0.6 per cent largely because of higher prices for children's winter wear, which outweighed some decline in prices for women's wear. The housing and the recreation-and-reading components also registered upward movements. Declines of 0.7 per cent and 0.4 per cent, respectively, occurred in the food and in the transportation indexes.

Toronto: The all-items index declined 0.3 per cent to 151.8 in October from the September level of 152.2. Lower prices for women's wear and for piece-goods contributed to a 1.3 per cent decrease in the clothing index. The food index, because of seasonally-lower vegetable and fruit prices, declined by nearly 1 per cent and the transportation component was 0.6 per cent lower than in the preceding month. An increase of 0.9 per cent was registered in the health-and-personal-care index and there were lesser advances in the housing and in the recreation-and-reading components.

Winnipeg: The all-items index moved downwards by 0.2 per cent to 146.8 in October from 147.1 in September. A decline of 1.3 per cent in the food index, combined with a fractional drop in the clothing index, outweighed the advances recorded in the housing, health-and-personal-care and recreation-and-reading components. Both the transportation and the tobacco and alcohol indexes remained unchanged from the previous month.

Saskatoon-Regina: A decline of 0.2 per cent to 140.6 in October from the September level of 140.9 reflected decreases of 1.2 per cent and 0.3 per cent, respectively, in the food and in the transportation components. All other components, except tobacco and alcohol which was unchanged, registered fractional advances.

Edmonton-Calgary: The all-items index declined 0.2 per cent to 141.7 in October from 142.0 in the preceding month. Seasonally-lower fruit and vegetable prices contributed to a 1.1 per cent reduction in the food index and the transportation index declined by 0.3 per cent with the introduction of rail fare reductions in off-peak travel months. A rise of 0.6 per cent in the health-and-personal-care component was attributable to higher fees for dental care. Fractional advances were also recorded in the indexes for housing, clothing, and recreation and reading.

Vancouver: A decrease of 0.1 per cent moved the all-items index for October to 144.9 from its level of 145.1 in September. Seasonally-lower vegetable and fruit prices mainly accounted for a decline of 1.3 per cent in the food price level. The only other component to register a decline from the preceding month was that for transportation which fell by 0.3 per cent. The housing and clothing indexes edged up by 0.3 per cent and 0.1 per cent, respectively. Increased rates for prepaid medical care contributed to a rise of 2.3 per cent in the health-and-personal-care component index, while higher admission prices to sporting events raised the recreation-and-reading index by 1.2 per cent.
